Land specific agricultural strategy

*337. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating any plan to adopt a land-specific agricultural strategy to raise the foodgrains production level from the current 180 million tonnes to 400 million tonnes over the next three decades; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof and the steps so far taken to evolve appropriate strategy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) As per the Planning Commission, the foodgrains production target for 1996-97 and 2006-07 are 210 million tonnes and 286 million tonnes respectively. No projections are available for future years. Present strategy envisages reaching these targets by increasing crop productivity and cropping intensity as well introducing latest technology. This is to be done by adopting a cropping system based approach for an optimal yield as well to ensure sustainable growth not necessarily following any particular land specific agriculture strategy.

(b) In view of reply at (a) above, question does not arise.

Monitoring Cell for un-safe tracks

*338. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways have a cell to monitor un-safe tracks;

(b) if so, whether such a cell is in operation in the South-Central Railways;

(c) what are the functions of this cell;

(d) whether it is a fact that the track on the South Central Railways is un-safe; and

(e) if so, what engineering innovations are proposed to be implemented in the South-Central Railways to ensure rail safety?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) There is no unsafe track on which trains are running. Track is maintained satisfactorily for the max. permissible speed of the section and the track adequacy is colsely monitored.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Delegation for the Atlanta Olympics

*339. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 42 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 12th July, 1996 and state:

(a) which are the States that are sending delegations for the Atlanta Olympics, with the number of the delegates; and

(b) whether Government consider that sending such delegations hepls the development of sports and if not, whether Government will consider banning such delegations as are led by persons who are not sports persons?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) and (b) As per information received from the Ministry of Finance (Deptt. of Economic Affairs), the nodal Ministry for clearing the visits of Central/State delagations abroad, Govt. of India have not cleared any such requests received from the State Government.

महानगरों में प्रदूषण

340. **श्री कनकसिंह मोहनसिंह मंगरोला:** क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) प्रदूषण स्तर की दृष्टि से भारत और विश्व के प्रमुख नगरों की तुलनात्मक स्थिति क्या है;